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TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS (1)

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, PLOS, MX

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S AUGUST 29 MEETING WITH MEXICAN
FOREIGN SECRETARY RABASA

1. SUMMARY: DURING AUGUST 29 MEETING SECRETARY AND RABASA
DISCUSSED: 1) CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES; 2)
MEXICAN ATTITUDE TOWARD MNC'S; 3) BRACERO PROBLEM; 4)
MEXICAN INTENTIONS REGARDING PROCLAMATION OF PATRIMONIAL
SEA; 5) AMERICAN CEMETERY PROBLEM; 6) ELECTION OF NEW
OAS SECGEN; AND 7) POSSIBLE MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT
ECHEVERRIA AND PRESIDENT FORD.

2. IN HIS EXPOSITION ON CHARTER, RABASA STATED THAT WHILE
HE, IN CONCERT WITH AMBASSADOR MAW AND MR. SCHWEBEL, HAD
AGREED UPON A FORMULA FOR SETTLING THE DIFFICULT ISSUES
OF DRAFT CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES RELATING
TO NATIONALIZATION AND MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS, THAT
FORMULA IS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO THE UNALIGNED STATES. RABASA
HOPED THAT U.S. WOULD DEMONSTRATE FURTHER FLEXIBILITY AT
FORTHCOMING MEETINGS OF UNCTAD WORKING GROUP AND WAS
INFORMED BY THE SECRETARY THAT U.S. WILL

NOT BE DRIVEN FROM POSITION-TO-POSITION BECAUSE THE
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UNALIGNED REMAIN INFLEXIBLE. HOWEVER, THE US WOULD

BE PREPARED TO REVIEW ANY NEW FORMULAE AND ASKED IF MEXICO HAD ANY. RABASA REPLIED THAT MEXICO DID

NOT. THE SECRETARY INFORMED RABASA THAT THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION HAD RESOLVED THAT THE US SHOULD AGREE TO THE CHARTER ONLY IF INTERNATIONAL LAW WERE SPECIFIED TO BE GOVERNING AND THAT THE ALTERNATIVE FORMULA "INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS" COULD PRODUCE DOMESTIC PROBLEMS. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT US HAD GONE TO THE LIMIT ON CHARTER AND OUR DELEGATION GOING TO GENEVA WOULD BE INSTRUCTED TO HANG TIGHT.

3. TURNING TO SPECIFIC QUESTION OF MNC'S, RABASA SAID THAT RUMOR THAT PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA HAD ANIMUS AGAINST MNC'S WAS NOT TRUE AND THAT MEXICAN POSITION WAS THAT MNC'S SHOULD MEET FOUR STANDARDS: THEY SHOULD SUPPLEMENT, NOT COMPETE WITH MEXICAN INDUSTRY; THEY SHOULD PROVIDE LOCAL BENEFITS IN AREAS IN WHICH THEY OPERATE; THEY SHOULD CREATE JOBS FOR MEXICANS; AND THEY SHOULD BE EXPORT ORIENTED. IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST FROM RABASA TO PASS MEXICO'S VIEWS TO MNC'S, SECRETARY REPLIED THAT HE WOULD DO WHAT HE COULD. RABASA ADDED MEXICO IS AGAINST "UGLY IMAGE" OF INTERFERENCE BY MNC'S IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF STATES AND PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA WAS CONCERNED WITH THIS ASPECT. HE NOTED THAT SECRETARY MAY HAVE HEARD THAT ECHEVERRIA MAY HOLD VIEWS OR HAVE MADE STATEMENTS UNAPPEALING TO US. SECRETARY REJOINED THAT HE JUDGED PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA ON HIS ACTIONS, NOT WORDS, AND THAT HE LIKED ECHEVERRIA AND HAD HAD NO UNFORTUNATE EXPERIENCES WITH HIM.

4. ON SUBJECT OF MIGRATORY WORKERS, RABASA REITERATED HIS PREVIOUS STATEMENTS THAT EXPULSION OF WORKERS WOULD CAUSE OUTCRY IN US BECAUSE THEY ARE NEEDED FOR WORK THAT AMERICANS REFUSE TO DO. RABASA PROPOSED AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS BY WHICH AT BEGINNING OF EACH YEAR AN ASSESSMENT OF NUMBER OF WORKERS NEEDED WOULD BE MADE AND 50 PERCENT OF THOSE MIGHT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER LEGALLY AS TEMPORARY WORKERS. THEY WOULD BE GIVEN RIGHT TO JOIN UNIONS AND CONTRIBUTE DUES. IN RETURN FOR SUCH A

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SYSTEM, RABASA CONTINUED, MEXICO WOULD INTENSIFY ITS EFFORTS TO DETER ILLEGAL MIGRATION. THE SECRETARY SAID HE WOULD BE PREPARED GIVE RABASA PROPOSAL SOME THOUGHT AND ASKED WHETHER IT HAD BEEN TRANSMITTED TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO. RABASA SAID IT HAD. THE SECRETARY ASKED BOWDLER AND L TO GIVE HIM A REPORT. "RABASA ASKED WHAT HE

COULD SAY TO PRESS AT THIS JUNCTURE AND SECRETARY RESPONDED

THAT HE COULD SAY HE HAD DISCUSSED MATTER WITH SECRETARY AND THAT SECRETARY WOULD DISCUSS PROBLEM WITH AMERICAN LABOR LEADERS.

5. ON QUESTION OF LOS, RABASA INFORMED SECRETARY THAT MEXICO WOULD SOON ENACT LEGISLATION PROCLAIMING TERRITORIAL SEA IN UPPER PART OF GULF OF CALIFORNIA AND PATRIMONIAL SEA IN THE REMAINDER. HE TRUSTED THESE STEPS WOULD NOT RAISE PROBLEMS FOR US. SECRETARY REPLIED THAT WE WILL OPPOSE THESE STEPS AND NOT RECOGNIZE THEM, AS PROBLEM MUST BE SOLVED AS PART OF MULTILATERAL AGREEMENT ON LOS AND NOT OTHERWISE. IN RESPONSE VARIOUS ARGUMENTS BY RABASA IN SUPPORT MEXICAN POSITION, SECRETARY REITERATED US OPPOSITION AND OUR INSISTENCE ON MULTILATERAL LOS AGREEMENT.

6. IN RAISING PROBLEM OF MILITARY CEMETERY, RABASA EXPRESSED STRONG PREFERENCE FOR REMOVAL OF ALL REMAINS TO THE U.S. WITHOUT FANFARE SINCE ISSUE IS ACUTELY SENSITIVE IN MEXICO AS IT HAD LOST HALF ITS TERRITORY IN 1848 WAR. IF REMOVAL TO U.S. NOT POSSIBLE, REMAINS COULD BE BURIED IN ANOTHER PART OF CEMETERY OR IN A CIVILIAN CEMETERY, BUT IN ANY CASE THERE SHOULD BE NO CEREMONY AND NO MONUMENT. THE SECRETARY AGREED THERE SHOULD BE NO CEREMONY, AND SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH THE PRESIDENT. MR. BOWDLER SAID THAT THE AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION IS NOW CONSIDERING HOW TO REDESIGN THE PRESENT SITE TO PERMIT THE MUNICIPALITY TO TAKE A 15 METER STRIP FOR THE HIGHWAY. THE BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION, BOWDLER ADDED, WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHAT COMPENSATION THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT IS WILLING TO PROVIDE. RABASA REPLIED THAT COMPENSATION IS NOT A PROBLEM AND THAT THE EMBASSY AND THE FOREIGN OFFICE COULD DISCUSS THAT RIGHT AWAY.
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7. ON QUESTION OF NEW OAS SEC GEN, RABASA SAID ELEVEN MEMBERS OF OAS HAVE AGREED SUPPORT GOMEZ BERGES OF DOMREP. HE SAID HE RECOGNIZED THAT BRAZIL AND SOME OTHERS PREFERRED CANDIDATE FROM PARAGUAY (SAPENA PASTOR). HE REGARDED SAPENA AS GOOD MAN FROM WRONG COUNTRY. HE ASSERTED THAT DOMINICAN CANDIDATE WILL BE ELECTED AND HE HOPED THAT WHEN THIS BECOMES CLEAR, U.S. WOULD DECIDE TO VOTE WITH MAJORITY.⁸ IN RESPONSE TO QUERY FROM THE SECRETARY WITH REGARD TO REPORTS THAT PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA PLANNED VISIT NEW ORLEANS TO DEDICATE A MARINE TERMINAL, RABASA SAID THIS WAS FIRST HE HAD HEARD OF IT. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT HE BELIEVED PRESIDENT FORD WOULD WELCOME OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA IF HE WERE TO COME TO NEW ORLEANS. RABASA COMMENTED THAT IF TERMINAL IS NOT OF

SPECIAL RELEVANCE TO MEXICO HE DID NOT THINK HIS PRESIDENT WOULD GO, AND IT WOULD BE BETTER TO ARRANGE ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR PRESIDENTS TO MEET. THE SECRETARY NOTED THE DESIRABILITY OF THE TWO PRESIDENTS GETTING TOGETHER.

9. SUBSEQUENT TO HIS MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY, RABASA MET WITH PRESIDENT FORD. INGERSOLL

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